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Wenatchee Community Center

Community Garden Rules



Ensuring an enjoyable gardening experience for all gardeners is a primary goal of the City of Wenatchee Community Garden project. Please respect your fellow gardeners and remember that gardening at the Community Center is a privilege.

1.0 VOLUNTEER HOURS: EIGHT ARE REQUIRED PER PLOT

- 1.1 Gardeners are responsible for contributing 8 hours for the collective areas o the garden (not inside your plot) each year per plot rented (1 plot=8 hours, 2 plots=16 hours, etc.). Completing and recording hours is your responsibility.
- 1.2 Volunteer hours should be provided to the City and recorded at the Community Center. Gardeners are responsible for recording their volunteer hours. The City will be monitoring and compiling the volunteers hours throughout the garden season.
- 1.3 Hours must be completed by October 31 every year.

2.0 USE AND MAINTENANCE

- 2.1 The Wenatchee Community Center Community Garden is open to the public, from March through October each year, depending upon the weather. It is subject to the following rules as well as other rules of City of Wenatchee Parks.
- 2.2 Each garden plot is ten feet wide by ten feet long.
- 2.3 Water is available from approximately April 15 to October 15.
- 2.4 The annual dues for each plot, include the use of water. Fees are set annually by the Wenatchee City Council.
- 2.5 The maximum number of plots that a first-year gardener may rent is one.
- 2.6 The maximum number of plots that make up a single gardener may reserve is four.
- 2.7 Maintaining your garden is your responsibility. Plots must be weeded and cleared by April 1st to ensure the maximum use of limited space. Plots not worked by this time may be reassigned at the discretion of the City. If surrendered plot(s) can be "re-rented" during the same season, a full or partial refund may be offered. Returning

gardeners have first preference to the plots they rented the previous year, but their applications and payments must be received by the deadline set by the City and must be in compliance of garden rules. Applications received after the deadline will be assigned space as available.

- 2.8 The City will assign annual plots in the spring. Plot assignments will be made with the following priorities. First, continuing gardeners requesting the same plot. Second, continuing gardeners requesting a different plot; third new gardeners; fourth, requests for second annual plots; and fifth, late applicants.
- 2.9 During the garden season (April 1-October 31), everyone must maintain their plot(s).
- 2.10 When you no longer want your plot, you must notify the City. You cannot give your plot to others.
- 2.11 During the gardening season, the City monitors plot usage. When plots are untended for more than two weeks, gardeners will be contacted by phone, email, or postcard and asked to take care of the plot by a certain date. If the City contacts you about an untended plot two times in one year and your plot becomes untended a third time, the City will reassign the plot without further notice or refund.
- 2.12 Gardeners are responsible for all tilling, soil amendments, cultivating, weeding, fertilizing, and watering, etc.
- 2.13 Garden plots are used for growing vegetables and flowers for the gardener's own use or for donation to charitable organizations. Growing vegetables and flowers for commercial use is prohibited. Growing shrubs and trees is prohibited.
- 2.14 All perennial plant material, semi-permanent structures, wire cages, etc. must be removed when gardener discontinues gardening and no later than October 31st. Individual gardeners are responsible for clearing the plots and returning them to their original weed-free condition so that they can be assigned to new gardeners. Any abandoned plant material will be removed and the gardener assessed the cost associated with the clean up.
- 2.15 Gardeners should place any unwanted plant materials in the designated trash receptacle. Do not pile weeds and rocks in the pathways. Place bagged, non-plant materials (plastic, wire, trash) in the designated trash receptacle.
- 2.16 Since plots are close together, gardeners should endeavor to keep their borders free from weeds or other materials that may impact the enjoyment of neighboring plots. . If it is not corrected, the City may deny the gardener a plot in the following year.

- 2.17 Tall plants (such as corn, sunflowers, or tall trellised plants) that cast extensive shade should be planted where they will not impact adjoining gardens. You must contact the City of Wenatchee before building any structure in your plot. Trees and permanent structures are not allowed in plots.

3.0 GARDEN ORGANICALLY (NO pesticides, NO herbicides, NO weedkillers, NO artificial fertilizers)

- 3.1 The use of chemicals such as pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, and chemical fertilizers is strictly forbidden (examples include Round Up and Miracle Grow). Use of raw human or animal waste, including "hot or green" manure is not allowed due to environmental and health concerns; however, fully composted manures such as steer or chicken manures are allowed. You may also use other organic fertilizers such as fish meal, bone meal, kelp meal, etc.).

4.0 MISCELLANEOUS

- 4.1 Dogs and other pets are NOT allowed in the garden area at any time.
- 4.2 There is no smoking allowed in the garden at any time.
- 4.3. Use common courtesy and resolve differences in a neighborly way. For problems with fellow gardeners, stay polite and listen carefully; usually solutions are easily reached. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated. Contact the City of Wenatchee for more serious difficulties.
- 4.4 Gardeners must be present at their plots while watering them. Drip irrigation, soaker hoses, and other irrigation may not be left on unattended. Please conserve water as much as possible. Water is to be used only for gardening. Water is turned off during the winter (usually beginning in mid-October).
- 4.5 Plants of an invasive nature (such as bamboo or English ivy) are not allowed in the ground; they are only allowed in pots or wooden boxes. Plants on the State's Noxious Weed List are not allowed anywhere in the garden and must be pulled if identified. To learn more about the current list of noxious or invasive plants go to <http://plants.usda.gov/java/noxious>.
- 4.6 Containers of standing water should be avoided, because they can be breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

- 4.7 Gardeners must provide their own tools. When not in use, tools, hoses, and other equipment cannot be left in the garden or walkways. Walkways and sidewalks must remain clear.
- 4.8 Loud radios are prohibited.
- 4.9 Tires are not allowed.
- 4.10 Closely supervise your children; help them learn respect for gardening and boundaries. Children using tools in the garden must be under direct and constant supervision of a parent or responsible adult. "Direct" means to be within talking distance.
- 4.11 Removal of vegetables, flowers, or garden equipment without the owner's consent, or the intentional damage to a garden plot is subject to prosecution. A member witnessing or experiencing garden theft or vandalism should notify police by calling 509-663-9911 to file a report, as well as the Wenatchee Community Center Office 509-888-1561.

Due to the open nature of garden sites, the City of Wenatchee is not responsible for loss of garden products.

Any gardener found to be in violation of the community garden rules will be asked to leave the garden.

The undersigned, has read, understands and agrees to abide by the Community Garden Rules. If I find that I cannot successfully accomplish this, I will notify the City so my assigned plot can be reassigned to another gardener.

Signature:_____ Date:_____